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Dated: February 11, 2002

Signature:

*Elena Maglito*  
(Elena Maglito)

Docket No.: HO-P02368US0  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Dean Hughes, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: N/A

Filed:

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: POSTERIOR STABILIZED KNEE SYSTEM  
PROSTHETIC DEVICES EMPLOYING  
DIFFUSION HARDENED SURFACES

JC971 U.S. PTO  
10/073705  
02/11/02

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is:

☒ not given

☐ given for each listed item

☐ given for only non-English language listed items

☐ in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references

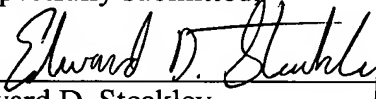
While the information and references disclosed in this Information Disclosure Statement may be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, it is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P02368US0.

Dated: February 11, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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